

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS ROME 6318

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ELAB, IT

SUBJ: CGIL CONGRESS

1. CGIL, STRONGEST OF THREE MAJOR ITALIAN TRADE UNIONS AND CLAIMING 3,614,180 MEMBERS, CURRENTLY HOLDING 8 TH NATIONAL CONGRESS BARI. SEC GEN LUCIANO LAMA SPOKE JULY 2 TO THE 1650 DELEGATES AND OUTLINED CGIL POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POLICY. TOTAL ADDRESS WAS MODERATE; ITS THRUST PERTAINED TO TRADE UNION RESPONSIBILITY IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, A RESPONSIBILITY THAT REQUIRES TRADE UNION TO BE A " PROTAGONIST" PARTICIPATING IN DEVELOPMENT POLICY NOT AN " ANTAGONIST."

2. GENERAL POLICY-- LAMA MADE " POLITICAL PROPOSAL" WHICH WOULD UNCLASSIFIED

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COMMIT LABOR MOVEMENT TO DEVELOPMENT ITALY' S SOUTH, FULL AND MEANINGFUL EMPLOYMENT, AND SOCIAL REFORM -- IN ESSENCE IMPROVING THE " QUALITY OF LIFE." TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS NEW GOVERNMENT MUST, ACCORDING LAMA, CARRY OUT MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE WITH TRADE UNIONS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING UNION PROPOSALS. ONLY THUS CAN ITALY HAVE STEADY AND CORRECT POLITICAL DIRECTION.

3. USE OF STRIKE-- TRADE UNIONS FOR THEIR PART IN WORKING TO ACHIEVE " NEW MODE OF DEVELOPMENT" MUST RECOGNIZE NEEDS OF SOCIETY IN GENERAL BEYOND ECONOMIC AND NORMATIVE GAINS UNION MEMBERS. THIS MEANS PRUDENT USE OF STRIKE, FOR EXAMPLE: ALTHOUGH LAMA RULED OUT BOTH LEGISLATION CIRCUMSCRIBING STRIKES AND RIGID UNION " SELF- REGULATION" HE AFFIRMED THAT THERE WERE " CORRECT STRIKES AND ERRONEOUS ONES." ON THIS POINT SOME INTERNAL CGIL OPPOSITION TO LAMA POSITION POSED BY TEXTILE SECTOR AND FORMER PSIUP ELEMENTS. ON OTHER HAND METALWORKER LEADER TRENTIN EXPECTED GO ALONG WITH LAMA POSITION IN SPITE OF MILITANCY IN HIS OWN UNION.

4. AS FURTHER DEMONSTRATION CGIL WILLINGNESS COLLABORATE OTHER FORCES TO SOLVE ITALY' S PROBLEMS, LAMA STATED THAT UNIONS WOULD BE MEETING WITH INDUSTRY SPOKESMEN (CONFINDUSTRIA) IN THE AUTUMN TO DISCUSS HOLIDAYS, VACATIONS, BETTER USE OF PLANT EQUIPMENT, ETC. WHILE OFFERING A MEASURE OF TRADE UNION COOPERATION WITH GOVERNMENT LAMA ALSO WARNED THAT UNLESS MEASURES TAKEN TO CONTROL INFLATION, UNIONS WOULD HAVE TO DEMAND GENERAL WAGE INCREASES. NECESSARY IN ANY CASE ARE INCREASED PENSIONS, FAMILY ALLOWANCES AND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.

5. TRADE UNION UNITY-- LAMA STATED THAT HAD IT BEEN UP TO CGIL UNITY WOULD NOW BE A FACT. THE FEDERATION CGIL, CISL AND UIL SHOULD BE A " BRIDGE" LEADING TOWARD ORGANIC UNITY. LAMA PROPOSED THAT A TEAM OF LEADERS FROM THE THREE CONFEDERATIONS DEVOTE FULL TIME TO THE FEDERATION CGIL, CISL, UIL AND THAT CERTAIN TRADE UNION FUNCTIONS BE UNIFIED. MOST IMPORTANT INDICATION OF COMMITMENT TO UNITY, SAID LAMA, WOULD BE INSTITUTION OF ONE FEDERATION CGIL, CISL, UIL MEMBERSHIP CARD. ON THE SEPARATION OF UNION AND POLITICAL FUNCTIONS LAMA CLAIMED THAT PROBLEM COULD BE RESOLVED BEFORE ORGANIC UNITY BUT THAT UNITY UNCLASSIFIED

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SHOULD NOT FOUNDER ON THIS ISSUE WHICH IS MORE ONE OF FORM THAN SUBSTANCE.

6. INTERNATIONAL SCENE -- LAMA DISCUSSED POSSIBLE AFFILIATION ETUC BUT AS FEDERATION CGIL, CISL, UIL (THIS WOULD PRESUMABLY INVOLVE COMPLEX PROBLEM OF CISL AND UIL DISAFFILIATION ETUC). ON STATUS CGIL AFFILIATION WFTU LAMA INDICATED THAT CONGRESS

WOULD DISCUSS TWO RESOLUTIONS THIS ISSUE BUT SEEMED
TO COME DOWN ON SIDE OF RETENTION CGIL MEMBERSHIP.

7. CONGRESS CONTINUES THROUGH JULY 7. STORTI AND VANNI SCHE-
DULED SPEAK. LAMA LIKELY TO BE RECONFIRMED SEC GEN AND PIERRE
BONI (PSI) NAMED TO NEW ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL SLOT. VOLPE

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